IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of	:	**Confirmation No. 2287**
Satoshi OHTSUKA et al.	:	Attorney Docket No. 2004_1069A
Serial No. 10/501,673	:	Group Art Unit 1742
Filed July 16, 2004	:	Examiner Kathleen A. McNelis
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING OXIDE DISPERSION STRENGTHENED FERRITIC STEEL EXCELLENT IN HIGH-TEMPERATURE CREEP STRENGTH HAVING COARSE GRAIN STRUCTURE	:	**Mail Stop: AMENDMENT**

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of August 22, 2006, Applicants submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the presently claimed invention over the disclosures of the references relied upon by the Examiner in rejecting the claims. Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of these remarks.

Thus, the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okuda et al. in view of www.novantchemicals.com is respectfully traversed.

It is known that in order to improve the strength of an oxide dispersion strengthened ferritic steel (hereinafter referred to as "ODS ferritic steel"), it is effective to finely disperse the oxide particles by adding Ti to the steel. (See page 2, lines 7 to 10 of Applicants' specification.) In addition, for improving the high-temperature creep strength of ODS ferritic steel, it is effective to make the grain coarse in order to suppress grain-boundary slidings. (See page 2, lines 11 to 14 of Applicants' specification.)